Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

October 11, 2022

Mr. Louis DeJoy Postmaster General United States Postal Service 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 10300 Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy,

We write to express our concern that the United States Postal Service (USPS) is inadequately prepared to perform their Congressionally mandated duty of six-day mail delivery. After significant financial relief from Congress, and a recently reported \$60 billion net profit, the USPS should be prepared to carry out their mandate to reliably deliver the mail six days per week.

As you are aware, both chambers of Congress passed the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 (PSRA), and the President signed it into law on April 6th, 2022. The effective date stated within the law is 180 days after the enactment of the legislation, which means the provisions go into effect on October 3rd, 2022.

A provision within the PSRA that we are particularly proud supporters of is the six-day mail provision. That provision reads:

The Postal Service shall maintain an integrated network for the delivery of market-dominant and competitive products (as defined in chapter 36 of this title). Delivery shall occur at least six days a week, except during weeks that include a Federal holiday, in emergency situations, such as natural disasters, or in geographic areas where the Postal Service has established a policy of delivering mail fewer than six days a week as of the date of enactment of the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022.

While we were encouraged to see this language codified into law, we have heard multiple disparaging reports in the Kansas City, Missouri region about constituents receiving their mail far fewer than six days per week. Reliable mail service is critical for rural, suburban, and urban communities alike. Small businesses rely on the Postal Service to deliver time-sensitive legal documents. The magazine and catalog industry rely on the Postal Service to deliver mail directly to customers that subscribe to their products. Seniors in geographically isolated areas rely on the Postal Service to deliver life-saving pharmaceuticals when they need them. Additionally, many constituents have not been notified of changes in delivery service in a timely manner — or at all.

These delivery changes not only include delays, but also changes in routes and delivery locations.

While we are thankful for the critical service that our postal letter carriers provide, we are concerned that the USPS is not providing them the resources to successfully maintain six-day delivery standards. To alleviate our concerns, we request that you provide answers to the following questions by October 31, 2022.

- 1. Has the USPS received internal or external reports of significant failures to uphold its six-day mail delivery, as required by law?
- 2. What is the USPS' plan to achieve reliable six-day delivery of the mail in all regions of the country?
 - a. Specifically, how does the USPS plan to address the Kansas City region's unreliable mail delivery?
 - b. If/when the USPS has a change in delivery service, how does the USPS plan to notify constituents?
- 3. If there are barriers to achieving this required level of service, what are they?
- 4. Does the USPS plan to reinvest its new profits into services that support letter carriers' critical work to deliver six-day mail?

We look forward to your timely response to our questions.

Sincerely,

Sam Graves

Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II Member of Congress

CC:

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